

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, and 17-20 are currently pending in the application. Claim 20 has been amended. New claim 21 has been added.

On page 2 of the Office Action, claim 20 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 due to the claim's recitation of a "computer program." Applicants have amended the claim. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

On page 3 of the Office Action, claims 1, 3, 7, 9, 11, 15, 17, 18, and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Publication No. US2002/0065774 (Young) in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2001/0037245 (Ranganath).

On page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner acknowledged that Young does not explicitly disclose a first communication controller for controlling communication with a salesperson terminal and a customer mobile terminal through a first Internet. On page 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner alleged that Ranganath discloses a first communication controller by disclosing processor 112 (figure 1, of Ranganath).

Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 1, for example, is patentable over Young in view of Ranganath, as neither Young nor Ranganath, alone or in combination, discloses or suggests, "a first communication controller for controlling communication with the salesperson terminal **and the customer mobile terminal**," as recited in the claim. See claim 1, emphasis added.

In the present invention, a controller (element 305 of FIG. 1 of the present invention) communicates with both a salesperson terminal (element 100 of FIG. 1) and a customer mobile terminal (element 400 of FIG. 1).

In contrast to the present invention, Ranganath's processor 112 does not communicate with a customer mobile terminal. Rather, the processor 112 simply controls the communication interface 115 between the application server and the point of sale device. As can be clearly seen in Fig. 1, communication with the Consumer Internet Appliance 104 occurs via a completely different communication interface 110.

Therefore, claim 1 is patentable over the references. As claims 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 18, and 19-20 recite language similar to that of claim 1, the claims are patentable over the references for at least the reasons presented for independent claim 1. As Byrne fails to cure the deficiencies of the combination of references, claims 5, 13, and 19 are patentable over the references for at least the reasons presented for independent claim 1.

Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 21 is patentable over the references, as none of the references, alone or in combination, disclose or suggest, "receiving identification information of a product from a customer at a salesperson terminal; registering the identification information of the product at a cashier; informing the customer of information identifying the cashier; and receiving at the cashier electronic payment entered by the customer at a customer mobile device."

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

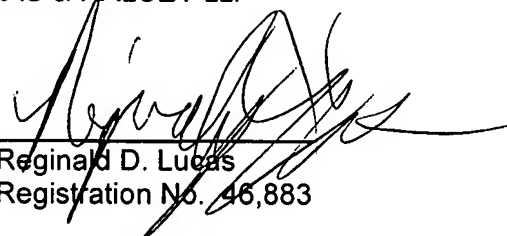
Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after the response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of the response, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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